

## Outline

- What is the origin of the species we see today?
- Three observations relevant to the origin of species:
  - 1) Birth and death happen—implying today’s species are *descendants* of the originals
  - 2) Heritable change happens over time
  - 3) Inherited traits influence species’ survival
    - Summary: “Descent with modification and preservation by means of natural selection”
- How did Darwin go from the three observations above to the idea of evolution?
  - By making *assumptions*, not observations
- Creation also is founded on assumptions—those laid out in Scripture
- What science is: Observation, testing, repetition
  - Since history is not observable, and since origins is a historical question, the origins question falls outside of the domain of science; therefore, creation *and* evolution fall outside of the domain of science
    - Hence, the three above observations are common to *both* creation and evolution
- Historical questions are *forensics* questions—the origins question is a forensics question
  - Evolution lacks the key form of forensic evidence—eyewitness testimony
  - Scripture is eyewitness testimony—hence, creation has a superior *form* of evidence
- Key assumptions of Darwinism:
  - 1) No design or designer
  - 2) Strictly natural mechanisms of change (primarily via natural selection)
  - 3) Millions of years of earth history
  - 4) Universal common ancestry of all species
- Key assumptions of Creation:
  - 1) Design exists in nature; God is the Designer (Genesis 1)
  - 2) Everything was created good about 6000 years ago, then corrupted shortly thereafter by man’s sin. Death is part of creatures’ life history after the Fall (Genesis 1-3; Exodus 20:11; genealogies in Genesis 5, 11; Matthew 1, Luke 3)
  - 3) World-wide Flood destroyed the earth about 4000 years ago (Genesis 6-8)
    - The Flood *must* be world-wide—otherwise the promise of no more Floods is a promise of no more local floods, which would be a broken promise since local floods happen all the time
  - 4) Change within kinds but not between kinds (with an unspecified mechanism for descent from ancestral kinds)
  - 5) Dispersion of humanity from the tower of Babel (Genesis 11)
- Biblical errors of compromise views:
  - Placing death before sin (inconsistent with Romans 5:12)
  - Contradicts plain reading of Scripture
- Where do species come from? *From pre-existing “kinds”, originally created during the creation week of Genesis 1*
  - Science* cannot answer the question of the original origin of the species—because science deals with observation, and the past cannot be observed